Serial No.: 10/063,289

Confirmation No.: 4878

Attorney Docket No.: 7298.0071.NPUS00

REMARKS:

The indication of the allowability of claims 3-27 is acknowledged with appreciation. Responsively, claims 1 and 2 have been cancelled, claim 4 has been amended into independent format with all intervening limitations and claim 3 has been amended to depend from now allowable claim 4.

Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

The undersigned representative requests any extension of time that may be deemed necessary to further the prosecution of this application.

The undersigned representative authorizes the Commissioner to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 or 1.17 that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 14-1437, referencing Attorney Docket No.: 7298.0071.NPUS00.

In order to facilitate the resolution of any issues or questions presented by this paper, the Examiner may directly contact the undersigned by phone to further the discussion.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy W. Druce, Esq.

Reg. No. 35,493

Novak, Druce & Quigg, LLP

1000 Louisiana, Suite 5300

Houston, Texas 77002

(713) 571-3400

(713) 456-2836 (fax)

tracy.druce@novakdruce.com